

REMARKS

In the paper filed 04 June 2003, applicants added new claims 54-72 to replace claims 37-51 and 53, which were drawn to a non-elected invention (methods), but which Applicants understood would be rejoined later, after examination of the elected claims, if these method claims were amended or rewritten to be commensurate in scope with the elected product claims.

As explained in the 04 June 2003 response, all but one of the unelected, withdrawn claims were being replaced by new Claims 54-72 so that they remain commensurate in scope with the elected product claims for later rejoinder.

In adding these claims, Applicants intended to cancel claims 37-51 and 53, but failed to do so explicitly. The present paper is submitted to effect that cancellation and further to cancel claim 52 which is directed to an unelected invention which Applicants understood would not be considered for rejoinder. If Applicants misunderstood the Examiner's intention with respect to these method claims, particularly claim 52, they request that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (202) 216-8584 to clarify the point.

Please note that dependent claims 16 and 29 were also cancelled in the paper filed 04 June 2003.

Thus, a total of 19 new claims (Claims 54-72) (of which one, Claim 72, is independent) were added. A total of 19 existing claims (37-53) (of which two are independent) are being, or have been, cancelled. It is therefore believed that Applicants do not owe any additional fees based on the new claims added in the 04 June 2003 Amendment. Thus, the only fees chargeable to the deposit account should be the extension fee (small entity).

In conclusion, it is respectfully requested that the above amendments, remarks and requests be considered and entered.

Examiner Wortman is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (202) 216-8584 with any questions or comments if they will assist in the understanding this amendment and response.

In the unlikely event that the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due to Deposit Account 22-0261. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 11 June 2003

By:


Shmuel Livnat
Registration No. 33,949

VENABLE

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, D.C. 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 962-4800

Facsimile: (202) 962-8300

Direct Line: (202) 216-8584